

Announcements.

DAKIN BROS. OF CHINA, LIMITED, CHEMISTS, &c.

EUCALYPTUS OIL AND INFLUENZA.

"O F all the preventives, OIL OF EUCALYPTUS, either disguised under fancy names or in its pure state, has earned the most professional and lay support, and up to the present it certainly seems to have vindicated the claims put forward in its behalf."—*Chemist and Druggist*, Feb. 6th, 1892.

DAKINS' STANDARD BRAND OF EUCALYPTUS OIL.

Bottles, 50 cts. and \$1.00

No. 22 & 24, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

We invite attention to the following Brands, all of which are excellent quality and good value for the money.

The same being specially selected by our London House, and bought direct from the most noted Shippers, are imported in wood and bottled by ourselves, thus enabling us to supply the best growths at moderate prices.

In ordering it is only necessary to state the name and quantity of Wine or Spirit wanted, and initial letter for quality desired.

PORTS. (For Invalids and general use.)

	Per doz.	Per Bot.
A. Alto Douro, good quality, Green Capsule.....	\$10	\$1.00
B. Vintage, superior quality, Red Capsule.....	12	1.10
C. Fine Old Vintage, superior quality, Black Seal Capsule.....	14	1.25
D. Very Fine Old Vintage, extra superior, Violet Capsule (Old Bottled).....	18	1.50

SHERRIES.

A. Delicate Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Capsule.....	6	0.60
B. Superior Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Seal Capsule.....	7.50	0.75
C. Manzanilla, Pale Natural Sherry, White Capsule.....	10	1.00
C.C. Superior Old Dry, Pale Natural Sherry, Red Seal Capsule.....	10	1.10
D. Very Superior Old Pale Dry, choice old Wine, White Seal Capsule.....	12	1.10
E. Extra Superior Old Pale Dry, very finest quality, Black Seal Capsule (Old Bottled).....	14	1.25
	Case	Per Bot.
	1 doz.	Quarte.

CLARETS.

A. Superior Brackish Claret, Red Capsule.....	\$4	\$4.50
B. St. Estephe, Red Capsule.....	4.50	5.00
C. St. Julien, Red Capsule.....	7	7.50
D. La Rose, Red Capsule.....	11	12.00

MADEIRA, HOCK AND CHAMPAGNES.

FULL PARTICULARS OF THE VARIOUS BRANDS IN STOCK ON APPLICATION.

BRANDY.

A. Hennessy's Old Pale, Red Capsule.....	\$13	\$1.20
B. Superior Very Old Cognac, Red Capsule.....	15	1.40
C. Very Old Liqueur Cognac, Red Capsule.....	20	1.75
D. Hennessy's Finest Very Old Liqueur Cognac, 1872 Vintage, Red Capsule.....	30	2.50

SCOTCH WHISKY.

A. Thorne's Blend, White Capsule.....	8	0.75
B. Watson's Glenochy, Mellow Name and Trade Mark.....	8	0.75
C. Watson's Abolour-Glenlivet, Red Capsule, with Name and Trade Mark.....	8	0.75
D. Watson's H. K. D Blend of the Finest Scotch Malt Whiskies, Violet Capsule.....	10	1.00
E. Watson's Very Old Liqueur Scotch Whisky, Gold Capsule.....	12	1.10

IRISH WHISKY.

A. John Jameson's Old, Green Capsule.....	8	0.75
B. John Jameson's Fine Old, Green Capsule.....	10	1.00
C. John Jameson's Very Fine Old, Green Capsule.....	12	1.10
D. Genuine Bourbon Whisky, fine old, Red Capsule, with Name.....	10	1.00

GIN.

A. Fine Old Tom, White Capsule.....	4.50	0.40
B. Fine Unwetted, White Capsule.....	4.50	0.40
C. Fine A. V. H. Geneva.....	25	0.50

RUM.

Fine Old Jamaica, Violet Capsule.....	12	1.00
Good Lecward Island.....	\$1.50	per Gallon.

LIQUEURS.

Benedictine	Maraschino
Curacao	Herrling's Cherry
Chartreuse	Dr. Slegert's Angostura
	Bitters, &c.

PRICES ON APPLICATION.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY, ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

Hongkong, 4th February, 1892.

For Sale. NOW READY.

[PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.]

"THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST"

FOR 1892.

THIS Valuable Work, with many NEW ADDITIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS, IS NOW READY.

PRICE THREE DOLLARS.

Orders for Copies of THE "HONGKONG DIRECTORY" may be sent to the following Agents:

HONGKONG.....	Mr. W. Brewer.
Messrs. F. Blackhead & Co.	
Messrs. Heurmann, Herbst & Co.	
Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Limited.	
Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co.	
The Hongkong Trading Co., Ltd.	
Man Yit Tong, Hollywood Road.	
Messrs. A. A. de Mello & Co.	
MACAO.....	Mr. N. Moalle.
FORMOSA.....	Mr. H. W. Churchill.
FOOCHOW.....	Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Limited, Shanghai.
SHANGHAI & NORTH-EAST PORTS.....	Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Limited, Yokohama.
JAPAN.....	Rev. S. J. Smith.
HANKOW.....	Messrs. Sayle & Co., Limited, Singapore.
SINGAPORE.....	Messrs. Amédée Prince & Co., London.

"THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" Office.

Pedder's Hill, Hongkong, January 23rd, 1892.

DEATH.

At Los Gatos, California, on December 16th, 1891, Capt. J. GODSIL, aged 57 years. [323]

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 1892.

"A WORD IN SEASON TO INVESTORS."

Under the above heading a correspondent writes to our Shanghai morning contemporary:

In the present condition of affairs in Hongkong, and the depressed state of the best class of securities, it is too much to make an appeal through your columns, to the good sense and judgment of men in Shanghai to refrain, for the present, absolutely from the further purchase of shares of any description pressed upon the market by the Hongkong brokers? That this recommendation is based upon sound policy admits of little dispute. The experience of the past six months has proved that so long as Shanghai is in the market as a buyer, prices are maintained, and even raised according to the demand, to speedily fall to lower depths than before upon the cessation of shares of any description. If he buys at too the same price, he will offer more shares at 95. The only remedy that suggests itself is total abstention from purchase until a sufficient time has elapsed to show that the bottom has been touched. If, for example, shares are being forced upon the market, the prices will continue to fall, with or without purchasers, to the point at which the creditor prefers the security to its proceeds. When that point is reached investors may safely begin to operate; until then, purchases may be justly characterized as foolishly imprudent speculations.

The test of the lowest point is the state of the market after an almost total suspension of business for a given time. When prices no longer recede, evidence is afforded that further decline is improbable, consequent upon the securities being worth to the holder or his creditor more than the prices offered for them.

All that is said here has been urged so frequently before that there is little hope it will attract attention; but as Shanghai has been for nearly a year buying freely on a falling market, it seems that the repetition of truisms may even now be tolerated, if not excused.

I admit the difficulty of resisting temptation. I freely acknowledge the soundness of the great majority of the stocks the depreciation in which has lately been so marked. I only counsel patience and confidence, and a fixed resolution to let the panic in Hongkong run its course with out involving the honest and solvent community of Shanghai in difficulties which the exercise of ordinary prudence will enable them to evade.

The correspondent of the *North China Daily News* is an 'original,' if he is nothing else. His letter is doubtless well-intended, but does he actually comprehend the policy he so glibly advocates? We doubt it. What is his policy? Well, considering what he calls "the depressed state of the best class of securities," he innocently appeals to the good sense and judgment of men in Shanghai to refrain absolutely from purchasing shares of any description from Hongkong brokers, so that further depression and depreciation may result. And he says that this recommendation is based upon sound policy, as the experience of the past six months has proved that so long as Shanghai buyers are in the market, prices have been maintained and even raised to answer the demand. Naturally that would be the result, and the fact that such appreciation has not been maintained is too well known to require a single word of explanation. Does "MUNICIPAL" wish to further depreciate "the best class of securities" in which he may or may not be interested? That certainly is the direct tendency of his remarks, but how a further depreciation is likely to assist the large

holders of Hongkong Banks, China Sugars, China and Japan Banks, Imuris, etc., etc., in Shanghai, he unfortunately omits to set out. And that information would have been by far the most important item in his letter. It is not true that there is a panic, or anything approaching it, in Hongkong at the present time. No doubt share business is in a very bad way, and it is equally beyond question that the extreme measures adopted by Bank autocrats, whose ridiculous leniency in certain quarters in the past is clearly responsible for most of the existing trouble, have practically paralysed the efforts of many of the 'cornered' who might have pulled through; but there has been no panic, nor anything approaching one. What may come to pass before long is quite another matter, and one which it would serve no useful end to discuss just now.

The Shanghai gentleman's letter speaks for itself, and will be taken exactly for what it is worth by those interested in the subjects dealt with. We regard it in the light of a stock exchange *curio*, its chief revelation being to our mind most interesting, assuming that it is true.

"MUNICIPAL" asserts that the share dealing community of Shanghai are "honest and solvent," which is a piece of news that will no doubt be duly appreciated throughout the length and breadth of this most dishonest and disgracefully insolvent community, as it so happens that numerous long outstanding accounts, owed by the honest and solvent traffickers and brokers of Shanghai to the insolvent and busted-up operators of Hongkong, still remain unpaid, and a settlement at this most trying crisis would to many be a god-send. Fortunes are decidedly bad—nay, dangerously uncertain. The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation is on all sides allowed to control the finances of the colony; can the able and energetic Directors of that once popular public institution do nothing legitimately, if not to relieve the existing dead-lock, to at least show the Hongkong community the exact position in which affairs stand?

It is painful to notice the change that has come over the *Japan Box of Curios*. This paper, once lively, funny, and refreshing, has since the end of last year grown more and more solemn, heavy, and unnatural. All human beings with souls delight to see the playful, innocent child, or the frisky, facetious little kitten; and all such watching and loving must feel sorrowful, almost to cynicism, when the child or the kitten grows into big, clumsy, uninteresting adolescence. The *Box* has not yet entirely lost that breezy originality which justifies, or rather makes its readers bless its existence; but gradually an unhealthy, dropsical overgrowth of watery heaviness is dragging it down. Brother *Box*, look at all these reports of meetings, proxy comments on uninteresting rubbish, missionary lucubrations—dry up!

MR. SANGSTER will give another Organ Recital in St. John's Cathedral on Monday afternoon next, the 21st inst., at a quarter to six o'clock. The following will be the programme:—

1—Grand Chœur.....Dubois.

2—Aria "With Verdure Clad".....Haydn.

3—(a) Offertoire.....C. F. Sangster.

(b) Canon.....C. F. Sangster.

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(By request.)

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A collection will be made for renewing music-books for the choir, and the whole amount collected will be devoted to this object only.

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THERE is in Saigon an Education Bureau, presided over by a Mons. de Cappe, who would seem to combine in himself all the characteristics of Bishop Burdon and Dr. Eltel. Says the *Progress*:—"We learn that the eminent M. de Cappe is about to resign yet another time his famous post college (of Chasseloup-Laubat). He will at last be able to give all his time to this great work, which will exhibit in strong relief the astonishing aptitude as an administrator and an instructor of youth. The directors and professors will reach a high pitch of perfection. Only one black spot mars this glorious prospect: elected representatives of the people, so troublesome to M. de Cappe, will probably take a deep interest in all that goes on in this little domestic hobby of M. de Cappe, and the Government will, before it is finished, fully grasp the importance of sending that gentleman back to the studies where he came from. We are strongly of opinion that he may yet be of immense use to mankind—at sugar-cane planting."

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Brownie.—Doctor, I want some good oplate. M. D.—What's your vocation? Brownie.—I'm editor of the *Snail*. M. D.—Why not read your own paper?

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A "MANDARIN" from Canton patronized the Hongkong Trading Company this morning, and signified that he would be graciously pleased to look at some silk goods. The whole staff of courteous attendants hastened to execute his Excellency's wish, and while showing him their gorgeous stocks of silk goods somebody noticed that the noble lord had executed the "sieve trick" with a ball of silk, stowing away \$30 worth of material in the capacious folds of his robe. He was promptly escorted to the *yam* of the magistrate, who remanded the case until Monday.

THE Commanders of the grand, ocean-gravy-hounds *China* and *Express* of Japan looked in at Mr. Hastings' *Trade* this morning—the former to charge his stockbroker, Herr van Kike, with willful disobedience of orders; the latter to "fix" an A.B. for disobedience of lawful commands and taking "French leave." Van Kike denied that he refused duty, pleading that the order to tally cargo was not lawful—he was not obliged to check cargo. It wouldn't "wash," though, with the *Stipendiary*, who sent him up for seven days and nights. In the case of the *Express* "jack" the case was proved up to the hilt and 14 days' hard was the prescription given gratis by the Chief of the harbour department.

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to-day that the firm of investment of the present Khedive of Egypt has been prepared, and that it is in the exact terms of the firm investment of the Khedive of Egypt. This is regarded as a signal success for English diplomacy, as it is the first time that the Sultan to invest in the firm investment of the Khedive of Egypt. The Sultan preferred to adhere to the old form in order not to embarrass the Khedive. The ceremony of investiture will take place in Cairo, in accordance with the concurrence of the Khedive.

All Paris is talking of the burning of the Sevres factory. It was a shock to the morning before it was learned that the firemen had the flames under control in the morning. The ground floor, where the museum is located, was not touched by the fire. The three upper floors were destroyed, as well as all the work in process of construction, but the old and unique pieces that are part of the glory of France are intact. The fire broke out in the burning department. The loss, which will amount to only 300,000 francs, might have been incalculable, as the Sevres museum contains many unique single pieces valued at more than a million francs each.

M. de Lesseps is critically ill, but his physicians deny that his condition is hopeless.

The Princess Montebello, daughter of Mr. Singer, the sewing machine manufacturer, who recently secured a divorce, denies the report that she is about to marry again.

The German Government is becoming more and more uneasy over the growth of socialism. The Emperor would like to employ more energetic measures for its suppression. A definite policy has not yet been adopted, but most expect to hear of his decision to take serious action.

Rome, February 14th.
Pope Leo XIII. has issued an edict modifying the restrictions of Lent in all parts of the world where the grip is prevalent. The order of the Pope has been in the hands of the archbishops and bishops for a number of weeks.

It was so worded as to leave the edict inoperative should the disease have disappeared prior to the beginning of Lent. But as the grip is still prevalent, the edict will be operative. America the order will be operative in both continents on Sunday, February 21st. The order is similar to the one issued by the Pope last year. It is intended to obviate the possibility of a too tight fast on the part of many persons whose health demands the generous use of nourishing foods and yet who would have regard of any departure from the rules as an act of disobedience.

Lisbon, February 14th.
In consequence of the financial crisis Portugal will not take part in the World's Fair.

New Orleans, February 14th.
Captain John S. Scott, a famous river pilot, the hero of the Robert E. Lee disaster of 1882, died here to-day, aged 53 years.

City of Mexico, February 14th.
The Supreme Court of Military Justice has ordered the Minister of War to have Colonel Hernandez brought here to have his appeal.

London, February 15th.
In the Commons to-day Lord George Hamilton, First Lord of the Admiralty, responding to a question, denied that the British Government was involved in any constitutional question by the conveyance by her Majesty's ship *Exigile* from Corral, Chile, to Montevideo, of 335 boxes of silver, valued at £145,000, for the then President, Balmaceda. The question of the legal title of the then existing Chilean Government was universally recognized and the shipment of bullion regular. He added, however, that a change in the naval regulations under which the captain of the *Exigile* acted was under consideration.

Mr. Jackson, Chief Secretary for Ireland, stated that the whole sum of £100,000,000 assigned for the purchase of land in Ireland under the Ashbourne Act had been absorbed. The pending applications for advances amounted to £361,574 above the sum provided by the Act.

In the debate this evening on the address in reply to the speech from the throne, Sexton, the member for West Belfast, moved an amendment declaring a majority of the Irish people and their representatives in Parliament were convinced of the inability of the Imperial Government to legislate for Ireland in the manner required by the distinctive interests of that country, and that this conviction had been intensified by the manifest failure of the Land Purchase Act to afford a basis for the extension of the class of occupying tenants. He criticised the Act severely.

Mr. Jackson replied, defending it, and Sexton's motion was rejected, 179 to 158.

The close vote was greeted with tremendous cheers from the opposition and the Irish. The address was then adopted.

At the Bow-street Police Court this morning M. F. Morland, a private tutor of Oxford, who was arrested on Saturday, charged with blackmailing a number of wealthy undergraduates of the university, was brought up for preliminary examination. Mr. Morland, who is 65 years of age, has, from the evidence furnished, been in the habit of luring noble and wealthy students into correspondence with his own lady, and when he had sufficient documentary evidence in his possession, would make a demand, accompanied by a threat of exposure, for a round sum in cash.

The Pall Mall Gazette to-day publishes a long letter in defence of K. g. n, the United States Minister to Chile. The letter was sent from Valparaiso by an Englishman and a Conservative.

Lord Rosebery, owner of the well-known American racing horse Foxhall, has sold the property of James R. Keene, is about to send him to the United States, where he will be offered for sale.

Paris, February 15th.
The Deputies resume their meetings to-morrow. The sessions will be very stormy, as the religious question will be discussed under all its forms. Moreover, the Government intends to present a bill regarding associations, and this measure is entirely the work of the Jacobins and anti-Liberals and is directed against Catholics. The Government says in the first article that the right of association may be enjoyed without any previous authorization, but the second article begins by enumerating the conditions under which association will be tolerated. The law provides that no real estate shall be owned except such as is absolutely necessary, and that hospitals shall not be used for purposes of installation of residence. Associations are further prohibited from owning more money than is absolutely indispensable for living in foreign countries; from acquiring any kind of property and from receiving gifts and heritages. For every infraction of the law the offender is to be punished by imprisonment.

Unluckily, the Radicals are in a majority in the Chamber, and they will be only too well satisfied to pass the bill.

Berlin, February 15th.
Reports of the disciplinary measures being taken against non-commissioned military officers charged with brutality are being received from all parts of Germany. The officers declare, however, that the harshness complained of will never be terminated from the army until the rigid parade step is abolished. The attempt to attain perfection in this ornamental exercise

result, it is said, in much cruelty. There is plenty of scope, it is also said, within the regulations for non-commissioned officers to exercise extreme severity.

The *Potsdam Gazette* publishes a despatch from Serbia, announcing that the correspondent at Belgrade was compelled to leave Serbia to-day by order of the Serbian Minister of the Interior. The reason given for his expulsion is that his telegram to Berlin caused a fall in Serbian securities. The *Gazette* says that it is evident that the Serbian Government is alone to blame for the fall in its securities, which it falsely attributes to the correspondent of the paper, who simply did his duty in sending the news communicated.

A very singular trial is going on in Frankfurt. A professional nurse allowed a piece of flesh to be severed from her arm by a surgeon and transplanted into an open wound on the body of a wealthy patient. She now claims that the surgeon cut too much away and is suing him for damages on the ground of unnecessary injury to herself.

Sixty persons suspected of being anarchists have been arrested in this city.

Warsaw, February 15th.
The police officials in this city report that German agents overun Russian Poland and are secretly conducting a pan-Germanic agitation. According to the police these agents are impressing the Poles with the superiority of the Decree to the Russo-French alliance.

Liverpool, February 15th.
The damage done by a fire in the cotton sheds on the Stanley-Moore dock and the cotton-laden steamer *Ramon de Laserna* alongside is placed at \$500,000.

Vienna, February 15th.
Owing to the failure of crops famine is causing widespread distress in Montenegro. This state of affairs has resulted in the wholesale emigration of people to Turkey.

London, February 16th.
In the divorce division of the High Court of Justice to-day Justice (Judge) granted an order restraining Captain Armstrong, who has petitioned the court for a divorce from his wife, Mrs. Melba, the well-known singer, naming the Duke of Orleans as co-respondent, from proceeding before a Vienna tribunal and from examining servants in the Vienna Hotel, in which, as well as at other points, it is alleged the respondent and co-respondent lived for a time as man and wife.

The usual number of scandalous incidents are related in connection with the case. Madame Melba claims that her relations with the Duke were perfectly pure and platonic. She charges that her husband treated her in a cruel manner, but Captain Armstrong denies this in a most emphatic manner.

At the West London Police Court to-day Louis Clovis Bonaparte, son of Prince Louis Lucien Bonaparte, who died recently, and William Alexander Thompson, a solicitor, were charged with conspiring together to defraud Rosalie Clovis Bonaparte the alleged wife of the late Emperor, of a considerable quantity of jewellery, valued at \$100,000, and were held for trial.

Paris, February 16th.
Le Matin says that the difficulty between France and the Sultan of Morocco in regard to the Tonkin one has been settled. By the terms of the agreement which has been arrived at, France will henceforth have the right to establish small garrisons in the district to control the caravans passing through the country and to levy a small tax on the merchandise.

Ottawa (Ont.), February 16th.
The Northern Pacific Railway was determined to reach Vancouver, B. C. It now has a corps of surveyors running a line from Sumas almost in a bee line, crossing the Fraser river five miles above New Westminster, and paralleling the Great Northern four miles on the south side of the river. The Canadian Pacific Railway road right-of-ways in the field securing the Chilliwack and Delta branch of the road, which makes a loop on the south side of the Fraser from the mountains and terminates at Vancouver, crossing the Fraser six miles below New Westminster. In connection with above it is also stated that the railways of Vancouver will be asked to grant the Northern Pacific an enormous bonus.

New Orleans, February 16th.
Andrew Carnegie, the millionaire iron manufacturer of Pittsburgh, has arrived here, accompanied by his wife and a number of friends. In an interview Carnegie said that the objective point of his trip, which is for pleasure, is Mexico, where he will go to California, thence to Portland, Ore., and home.

Continuing he said: "Relative to the iron industry I can say that the McKim law has been a blessing, not only to manufacturers but also to working men. President Harrison will be nominated by the Republican party in the next campaign, and will be elected, even if the whole undivided and solid Democratic party stands against him. All the talk about Blaine's retirement from the Cabinet is nonsense. He will not withdraw."

"As to the Silver Bill, I believe the House will pass it, but will fall in the Senate. Even if it does not the latter body the President will veto the bill."

Warsaw, February 16th.
Large numbers of arrests continue to be made here in connection with alleged nihilist plots. There were recently arrested here 350 persons, who were exiled to Siberia. There yet remain 160 political prisoners in the Warsaw Citadel.

Berlin, February 16th.
Sixty-nine of the professors at Berlin University have petitioned the Prussian Diet against the Primary Education bill now under consideration in that body.

Athens, February 16th.
The Protestant church at Piræus, which was pillaged and partly burned by a fanatical mob on Sunday last, was built by Englishmen and Americans, but the ministers connected with it are Greeks. The mob also attacked and wrecked the parsonage. The British and Foreign Bible Society intends to claim compensation for the outrage from the Greek Government. Many of the rioters were masked. The mob pursued members of the congregation to their very doors, and even demanded of the British Consul that they be surrendered. There is no doubt that they fell into the mob's hands the congregation would have been killed.

Quebec, February 16th.
In all the English and French Catholic churches on Sunday a commandment was read, signed by all the bishops of the province, denouncing political corruption and threatening excommunication against all who either gave or accepted bribes, whether in the shape of money or of liquor. All persons are forbidden from buying or selling liquor, not only on election day, but for three days before and after the contest.

Paris, February 17th.
The *Pall Mall Gazette* has this morning published a declaration from the Pope. It is, in substance, a statement made to M. Talier, an ex-Deputy. He says: "My desire and the wish of the church is that France should be happy. She is a nation whose plume and generous character, though they may not always keep her fast in the straight path which is best suited to her interests, soon repair all faults and show her the clear truth. I pray, and I act in accordance with my prayer,

that, despite all resistance, there may come an end to the dissensions and sterile quarrels which weaken her."

I have just received a communication from the president of a committee of the Chicago World's Fair, asking the Holy See to take part in that great American undertaking. And the United States, which constitute the republic, grow greater every day despite the drawbacks incidental to their boundless liberty. There, too, the Catholic Church develops without ceasing, with the state. The two powers act in perfect harmony, as they should in all lands where neither infringes upon the rights of the other. What suits the United States is still more suited to republicanism in France. To a Frenchman who visits me I speak the same language.

"Thanks to the strong constitution France will rise to her old greatness, in spite of her foes. I learn with joy that, though she boasts such abundant military resources and such valiant sons, France has not faltered in her prudence and patience. If she will but free herself from the dissensions that check her development and paralyze her influence; if she will but abstain from vain harassing and persecution, she will soon regain the conspicuous place and glorious rank in the world which right belongs to her."

This language of the Pope will make a great impression in France, where the adherents of his holiness to the public will cause widespread satisfaction. Europe will now understand that the Holy See is for France and against the triple alliance.

A CHINESE CORONER'S INQUEST.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Public affairs move in a peculiar way in China, and the fear of an official to act in the absence of another is marvellous; the substitute often preferring to let matters, no matter how urgent, lie until the return of the incumbent. An interesting example of the above came to hand a short time ago. Inside the East Gate of Chinan-Fu was a man named Yang, who sold a small assortment of mixed goods. This man had not an enviable reputation, his manner being more forcible than polite. When a customer entered his shop, Yang did not hesitate to ask an exorbitant price, and when the customer declined to buy, Yang would curse him for all he was worth. This led him to be thought unreasonable. Not infrequently when he would drive away some customer by his high prices and rude behaviour, his neighbour Mr. Chi, just opposite would reap the benefit, for Mr. Chi sold very similar wares and was able to undersell, as he had no rent to pay, being simply a peddler who stood under the arch of the gateway. Mr. Chi being a peaceable and well-disposed man, his trade very naturally increased, and often to the detriment of Mr. Yang, whose hatred of him soon showed itself.

From time to time rows occurred, until one day Mr. Yang proceeded to give his rival a good doubling. Several members of the latter's family joined in and a general melee followed, the Chi family getting the worst of it. Chi had one of these respectable-looking men, quiet and peaceable, but once aroused, men business to the death; so he procured a big dose of opium, which he placed in these pants, and swallowed it, he marched right into his enemy's shop, curled up on the counter and gave up the ghost. Not one of the Yang family daring to touch him. To the mind of a Westerner it seemed strange that this idea of a native teacher, they drew back in horror at the sight of such a thing. "Why" said they, "he had then, he would be accused of his death by a striking or throttling, so he let him alone." Mr. Yang's shop quickly became a resort for loafers and the curious, so that it had to be closed; but one panel of the front which was always thronged with people that day dragged through, a weary one indeed for the Yangs, and the next brought them no relief, for they were the remains of Chi on the counter. The day was brought, still no success. The magistrate was brought, his representative would not do anything but wait for his return. The magistrate came at last and the remains of poor Chi were taken out on the public street, stripped and washed, to search for bruises or any signs of violence. This search proving fruitless, a small silver rod was thrust down the throat to discover signs of poisoning. If the poison were opium the rod would turn black, and if arsenic red. The rod became black, so the conclusion was drawn that the remains put in a substantial coffin paid for by Mr. Yang; a lie stone was laid on the lid and the whole deposited outside the city gate to await a lucky day for burial.

It is a well-known fact that all coroners' inquests, as far as possible, take place where the remains of the deceased are found and so it was highly proper in this case that it should take place at the Yang's, but it does seem extraordinary that it should have been done so privately. The place was just the one for privacy, the inside and outside gates shut, the tops of the walls around a little space cleared and in fifteen minutes all would have been over, with few or no curious observers.

Mr. Yang, junior, having severely injured one of the Chi family, left the town suddenly. Mr. Yang, senior, was incarcerated and deprived of an ugly knave, which would be for suicidal use in case things went hard with him. The sentence simply made him pay the funeral expenses of Mr. Chi, and the expenses of the trial (a *yamen* runner) which totaled up to 200 odd taels. Besides this, the neighbours on both sides of the street between the inner and outer gates were mulcted 10 to 20 taels each, according to their ability, for not stopping the row. And there you have law and order Celestial—N. C. Daily News.

NOTES FROM CHINESE PAPERS.
The Viceroy at Nanking is still averse to letting Li Hien-mow out of prison. The court constituted for his trial has therefore not taken the formal step of petitioning for his release.

The four military officials sent by the Admiral of the Yangtze squadron to discover some evidence against Li Hien-mow concerning his alleged connection with the *Kiao Hut* have lately returned, having failed to achieve the object of their expedition. The governor of Honan has communicated with the Nanking Viceroy, stating that his secret agents have not found anything which will incriminate Li.

The alleged *Kiao Hut* member, Wang King-lung, who was captured recently, is said to be quite a genius. He is credited with having manufactured wooden horses and oxen that will bear burdens and walk. A machine invented by him, it is reported, fits any native boat and can propel it at great speed. Besides being an inventor he is an athlete, well versed in the use of arms. In every way he is considered a dangerous personage.

The alleged *Kiao Hut* member, who is said to have such talent for invention, is a young King-lung, not Wang as was reported. It appears that Huang is a notorious bandit steeped in heinous crimes of every description, such as murder, arson, and highway robbery, but as he has always carefully concealed himself in the mountain fastnesses of Anhu and none of his

followers ever implicated him in their confessions, he has thus far enjoyed impunity and was not even known to the runners. During, or rather after the New Year holidays Huang was arrested for gambling, a trifling offence, and was awaiting examination when his wife (?) denounced him to the magistrate and made a complete disclosure of his guilty doings. Upon the strength of the woman's evidence Huang was committed and indicted for murder, joining the *Kiao Hut* Society, and other crimes. The story of how this woman came into his possession and was called (by him) his wife, is quite romantic. A few years ago, Huang was at Hankow and fell in love with the woman, who was then a barber's wife. By pretending to be a man of great wealth and high standing he quickly ingratiated himself into the barber's confidence. Huang repeatedly spoke of the riches of the cities of the lower Yangtze and how fortunes could be easily made, until the barber's mind became restless. Then a proposal was made by Huang and eagerly accepted by the barber, that Huang should defray all expenses of the barber and his wife for a trip to the lower Yangtze, the money to be afterwards repaid. A boat was procured and the trio floated down the stream in it. When nearing Nanking, one dark stormy night, the barber was assassinated and his body thrown overboard. Huang then took possession of the woman, who, however, swore in secret to avenge her husband's murder. Silently for years she watched and saw her vow is about to be fulfilled, as there seems but little hope of Huang getting any mercy.

KOREA.
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)
Séoul, February 20th, 1892.
The February issue of the *Korean Repository* exceeds in interest even the first number, and deserves credit for the following information which will be interesting:—

"A contract has been made between the Korean Government and certain private parties in Japan for a period of five years for the coining of the latter promising a loan of \$250,000 to start with. The coins are to be four in number:—

1st.—A *Yang* piece, silver, equal to 500 pieces of either the large cash of Séoul, or of the small cash of the country, at a nominal value of 2,500 cash.

The coin is to be of the same intrinsic value as a Japanese silver Yen.

2nd.—A *Yang* piece equal to 100 pieces of either of the above cash, and corresponding to the 100 *cash* piece, Japanese.

3rd.—A *Yang* piece, equal to 25 cash pieces and corresponding to the 5 *cash* piece, Japanese.

4th.—A *Han-Pun*, copper, equal to 5 cash pieces and corresponding to the 1 *cash* piece, Japanese. The coinage for five years is to be as follows:—

Amount.	Present coin.
500,000 of <i>Yang</i> pieces	5,000,000,000
100,000 of <i>Yang</i> pieces	1,000,000,000
25,000 of <i>Yang</i> pieces	250,000,000
5,000 of <i>Yang</i> pieces	50,000,000
1,000 of <i>Yang</i> pieces	10,000,000
250,000 of <i>Han-Pun</i>	2,500,000,000
100,000 of <i>Han-Pun</i>	1,000,000,000
25,000 of <i>Han-Pun</i>	250,000,000
5,000 of <i>Han-Pun</i>	50,000,000
1,000 of <i>Han-Pun</i>	10,000,000
Total	10,000,000,000

Which at 2,500 to the dollar would make a total coinage of eight millions of Yen.

Should this project materialize as it now seems about to do, it will no doubt result in the plan to pay the way for the introduction of a native banking system. The introduction of something of this kind cannot but result in good. Certainly it would stimulate native trade and give it an impetus which it stands sadly in need of. Of the proposition for paper money of larger denominations, little is now said. But inasmuch as the plates are said to have been already cut, we may hear of it soon.

So contenting as quiet as a mill-pond. We are glad to welcome back General Hillier, who is looking very well after his return from Shanghai. General Le Gendre is still in Japan, presumably looking after the new coinage. There has been a great amount of sickness among the foreigners, but many are better now and are to be found in their usual haunts. Dame Rumor says Cupid has had an unusual number of victims. Under threats I am not to suggest that the engagements number more than four, but I give them for what it is worth.

This is the time when the Koreans lapse back into their original barbarism and once in for fun put on their barbarian and Donnybrook frock and indulge in a species of athletics which was heavy with age when the ancient sage alighted for an opportunity to develop his biceps by accelerating the pace of this mundane sphere with his lever. The Korean stone-fight is a unique institution and draws more spectators than an American ball game. One has been going on now for several days, the broad street just outside the city wall, which has a record of one man killed a day. The fight generally occurs between rival cantonments who thus score off old feuds.

His Majesty has had much of the burden of the Government in his own hands, the higher ministers having one by one taken their departure. A former minister named Chung has been prevailed upon to return, and was invested with the rank of Minister of the Right, and placed at the head of the office of medicine, the revenue of which, with the ginseng and castor oil monopolies, are said to be considerable. Who the coming Prime Minister will be is a matter of conjecture, though it is hinted that the mantle may fall on the shoulders of Chung if he will agree to be docile enough. Gentleness and an ability to advise, when it emanates from the right quarter, are said to be the qualifications necessary for the high functions of the three great ministries.—*Shanghai Mercury*.

NEWCHWANG.
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)
Newchwang, 16th February, 1892.
This is merely to serve as a meagre indication that we are still alive, there being absolutely nothing of great importance to write about. The great rebellion that we heard so much of just before we went into our annual hibernation, has happily not reached us, and we hear no more of it; I should not be at all surprised if it were a year of monstrous robbers, every melt away regularly with the weather in the spring. However, there is no doubt that something more serious has happened this year than the customary every year's disturbances; so much greater will be the plume which will be accorded by-and-by to the victorious generals and gallant colonels, who gloriously smashed the "rebels," and generally saved the country all round.

We are getting dreadfully tired of being engaged in doing nothing particular, except killing time, and this interrupted enjoyment of a holiday, like having *four hours' sleep*. I hear quite a number of applications have been sent in for the vacancies in the pilotage service, some even by telegraph, so as to insure precedence on the list of applicants. About half a dozen applicants, or even more, are expected from Shanghai by the first steamers, besides several others from other places, and there will be, no doubt, keen competition, and naturally some unavoidable disappointment to unsuccessful candidates, which is certainly a great pity, but

Intimations.

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NEWEST MATERIALS, FROM \$30. SILK LINED.
A VERY LARGE SELECTION OF SCOTCH TWEEDS AND OTHER SUITINGS.
EVENING DRESS SUITS, latest style.
EVENING DRESS TIES AND GLOVES.
EVENING DRESS 3 HOSE, SILK, THREAD, AND MERINO.
EVENING DRESS SHOES AND PUMPS.

Hongkong, 27th November 1891.

It cannot be helped. In the meantime, grim Torcas does not seem to be inclined yet to relax his stern rule, and heavily laden carts continue to pass backward and forward on the ice, and, happily, the country produce continues to drop in freely for exportation, never minding "billion in the interior; and I think we are justified in looking forward to a good business year, or to say the least of it, a brisk beginning, anyway. The natives are quite in a good humor; for some superstitious reason or other, they believe this time in a prosperous new year. "Have got good chances, can make number one good pigskin," as one of our leading comrades expressed it the other day, although he was reluctant to explain of what particular nature his "feng-shui" was. I hear this happy idea is generally spread amongst the natives, and, as far as I can see, there is no apparent reason for fearing the reverse. We are ready; and all we want now is the ice to clear out, and the steamers to clear in.

We are anxious to see the *Newchwang* light-vessel, which is still in Shanghai, I am informed, moved in position outside the bar once more, and hear the blasts of never tiring steam whistles again, and have the daily routine of the shipping wharf in full swing again. There has been some talk about a strategical railway from here to Port Arthur being resolved upon, at the headquarters, by the Board of Admiralty in Peking, and I give the rumour for all it may be worth, under every reserve. For strategical reasons it would be scarcely just as useful as our proposed connection with Shan-hai-kwan, and would be, for uninterrupted communication in winter, with the sea, far superior to the last mentioned place, which can boast only an open sea road, affording a very exposed anchorage only, except with west and north-westerly winds. But even before we see our connection with the Peking, via Shan-hai-kwan and Kai-ping, which is still in Shanghai, I am informed, moved in position outside the bar once more, and hear the blasts of never tiring steam whistles again, and have the daily routine of the shipping wharf in full swing again. There has been some talk about a strategical railway from here to Port Arthur being resolved upon, at the headquarters, by the Board of Admiralty in Peking, and I give the rumour for all it may be worth, under every reserve. For strategical reasons it would be scarcely just as useful as our proposed connection with Shan-hai-kwan, and would be, for uninterrupted communication in winter, with the sea, far superior to the last mentioned place, which can boast only an open sea road, affording a very exposed anchorage only, except with west and north-westerly winds. 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